

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 OES-05 FEA-01

ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1736

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USUN NEW YORK CITY 0408

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 8517

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH ENRG PARM BR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ENERGY - BRAZILIAN PRESS REACTION

TO THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL ON MULTINATIONAL
REPROCESSING

1. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL FOR MULTINATIONAL RE-
PROCESSING OF NUCLEAR REACTOR FUEL HAS DRAWN CRITICISM
FROM FONMIN SILVEIRA AND BRAZIL'S MAJOR NEWSPAPERS.
ON SEPTEMBER 25, "O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO" REPORTED THAT
"BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES" CONSIDERED
THE PROPOSAL AS "ONE MORE PRESSURE EXERTED BY
THE GREAT POWERS TO PREVENT COUNTRIES LIKE BRAZIL FROM
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HAVING ACCESS TO NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, EVEN THAT FOR PEACE-

FUL USES AND UNDER INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS. "O ESTAO ALSO REPORTED THAT FONMIN SILVEIRA HAD EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO REGIONAL REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT FACILITIES DURING AN INTERVIEW IN NEW YORK. ACCORDING TO THE STORY, SILVEIRA SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT, IF THE CENTERS WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE AMERICAS, ALL THE CENTERS WOULD BE IN THE US AND ALL THE CLIENTS WOULD BE IN THE REGIONAL COUNTRIES. SILVEIRA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE CONCEPT OF REGIONAL FACILITIES "IS EQUIVALENT TO SAYING THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES ARE SUFFICIENTLY RESPONSIBLE TO POSSESS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT AND THAT THE OTHERS LACK THE WISDOM TO ENTER INTO THIS FIELD. "SILVEIRA EXPLAINED THAT SUSPICIONS BRAZIL WAS PLANNING TO USE THESE FACILITIES FOR BELLICOSE ENDS WERE GROUNDLESS ESPECIALLY SINCE BRAZIL DID NOT HAVE THE MONEY, POWER, OR CAPABILITY TO MANUFACTURE NUCLEAR ARMS. THE PAPER COMMENTED THAT THE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES PROPOSED IN THE UNITED NATIONS COINCIDE WITH THE ACCELERATION OF ATTEMPTS BY THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL MEMBERS OF THE NUCLEAR CLUB TO CREATE A (STRONGER) SYSTEM OF SAFEGUARDS.

2. IN AN EDITORIAL ON SEPTEMBER 26, RIO'S JORNAL DO BRASIL TOOK ISSUE WITH THE US PROPOSAL AND DEFENDED BRAZIL'S RIGHT TO ACQUIRE ADVANCED NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. THE PAPER NOTED THAT CREATION OF REGIONAL CENTERS WOULD INJURE THE GERMAN/BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT. IT ARGUED THAT, HAVING SIGNED THE AGREEMENT AND OBLIGATED ITSELF, BRAZIL WOULD NOT ACCEPT NEW SAFEGUARDS. THE APPEARANCE OF NEW OBSTACLES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT COULD SURELY BE INTERPRETED AS A NEGATIVE RESPONSE BY ONE OF THE METROPOLITAN CENTERS TO THE CHANGE IN THE HIERARCHICAL POSITION ASPIRED TO BY BRAZIL. ONCE BRAZIL HAD REACHED A HIGHER STEP ON THE LADDER OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, IT WOULD HAVE NO STRONG MOTIVES TO FRUSTATE EFFORTS WHICH MIGHT LIMIT THE DANGEROUS FENDENCIES TOWARD A FACE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD--NOT EXCLUDING SOUTH AMERICA. IT WOULD THEN NOT BE IN BRAZIL'S NATIONAL INTEREST TO FORCE THE CLOSED NUCLEAR ENERGY CLUB TO OPEN ITSELF INDISCRIMINATELY--ONCE BRAZIL WAS ASSURED POTENTIALLY OF ENTRY INTO THE CLUB, THE CLUB SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

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CLOSED, THE EDITORIAL CONTINUED, BUT NOT BY EXCLUDING EMERGING NATIONS, LIKE BRAZIL, WHICH HAVE WON THE RIGHT TO ENTER. THE EDITORIAL CLOSES WITH THE COMMENT: THE US IS AGAINST THE PETROLEUM CARTEL AND BRAZIL IS AGAINST THE NUCLEAR CARTEL. THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT TOLERATES WITH WORDS OF GOOD WILL THE PETROLEUM CARTEL AND THE AMERICANS PROPOSE THE NUCLEAR CARTEL.
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